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**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**I. HEADING**

Date: October 23, 1998  
 Subject: Colloidal Paint Products Removal Site, Detroit, Wayne County,  
 Michigan  
 From: P.C. Lall, OSC, U.S. EPA, RS1, Grosse Ile, MI

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POLREP No.: 1 (Initial), PRP Lead

**II. BACKGROUND**

Site No.:	B536
Delivery Order Numbers:	N/A
Response Authority:	CERCLA
Cerclis Number:	MI0002264646
NPL Status:	No
MDEQ Notification:	MDEQ notifide
Latitude/Longitude:	42° 24' 28" North/83° 15' 43.8" West
Start Date:	October 22, 1998
Completion Date:	NA

**III. SITE INFORMATION****A. Incident Category**

PRP removal site.

**B. Site Description****1. Site location**

The Colloidal Paint Products site is located in a mixed residential/industrial area at 6140 Charles Street, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan (42° 24' 28"N, 83° 2' 20"West). The site consists of a one-story cinder block building with several rooms. The property is bordered to the north by Charles Street, to the east by St. Louis Street, and to the west and south by residences. The building contains a total of fifty-four 30-gallon fiber drums and 5-gallon pails, four wooden mixing tanks, one steel mixing tank, a total of 90 jars, bottles and cans that are less than 1-gallon in volume, thirteen 50 pound bags of soda ash, five 50 pound bags of tetrasodium pyrophosphate, one 50 pound bag of ammonium sulfate, three 50 pound bags of unknown contents,

and one 50 pound bag of Maglock. A small yard to the east of the building contains eleven 55-gallon drums.

## 2. Description of threat

Drums, pails, and small containers of unknown contents were documented in the building and yard. During a site assessment on December 9, 1997, conducted by the U.S. EPA and Ecology & Environment, Inc. (E & E) Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START), drums containing materials exhibiting corrosive characteristics were documented in the yard of the Colloidal Paint Products site. Bulging and leaking drums are present in the yard. The deteriorated condition of the drums creates the threat of release of their contents into the environment. The drums are outside of the building, and the absence of a garage door allows access to the building. No security is present on site, and evidence of trespassing was found. Numerous small containers of chemicals are scattered around.

## C. Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Results

START performed reconnaissance activities and air monitoring inside the building using a flame ionization detector (FID). The site assessment found approximately thirteen 55-gallon drums in the yard. On site hazard categorization of the drums found three drums containing corrosive materials with a pH of 13 standard units. One 55-gallon drum lying on its side leaking its contents, was found inside the building. A large puddle of brown liquid was observed on the floor. The area south of the building opening contained approximately fifty 5-gallon pails. A small loft on the northern side of the entry room contained approximately ten 5-gallon pails and approximately five 30-gallon fiber drums. A storage room on the northwestern side of the building contained 50 and 100 pound bags of solid materials. The shop and laboratory rooms contained approximately 70 containers of varying size.

The wall between the storage room and the shop room was constructed of white bricks that were suspected to be asbestos-containing material. The exterior walls of the building contained cinder block which were loose and crumbling. Walls inside the building were damaged and charred by fire. The ceiling contained missing and loose tiles.

## IV. **RESPONSE INFORMATION**

### A. Situation

#### 1. Current situation

The U.S. EPA, START and the responsible party (PRP) contractor Chem-Met Services, Inc., Brownstown, Michigan and their subcontractor Michigan Pumping Services (MPS), Trenton, Michigan, mobilized to site on October 22, 1998. MPS workers staged all of the chemical containers at the eastern entrance to the building.

#### 2. Removal activities to date: October 22, 1998 - October 23, 1998

On Thursday, October 22, 1998, U.S. EPA, START, and the PRP subcontractor, MPS, mobilized to the site to begin removal activities. START conducted air monitoring, and MPS workers moved chemical containers from all parts of the building to the eastern entrance area of the building to stage for sampling. MPS sampled eleven 55-gallon drums, approximately forty 5-gallon pails and 30-gallon drums for laboratory analysis. A Chem-Met chemist performed hazard categorization

tests of pH and flammability, and lab-packed 94 containers, each of one-gallon or less in volume, into four 55-gallon drums.

On Friday, October 23, 1998, MPS completed sampling activities. A total of 65 samples were taken. START conducted air monitoring during the sampling activities. U.S. EPA and START documented the inventory at the site.

B. Planned Removal Activities

PRP contractor Chem-Met will make arrangements for transportation and disposal of the drums, pails and containers on site.

C. Next Steps

Wait for laboratory test results from sampling activities and then proceed with removal activities.

D. Key Issues

None.

V. **COST INFORMATION**

START estimated cost = \$1452.50

VI. **DISPOSITION OF WASTES**

No waste has been disposed of at this time.